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Message Text

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53
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 CU-04 AEC-11 EA-11

OMB-01 NIC-01 OIC-04 DRC-01 /167 W
---------- 026103
R 141340Z JUN 74
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9858
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
USMISSION BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
SUMISSION NATO 2022
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, UR
SUBJECT: PODGORNY ON DETENTE AND U.S.-SOVIET
RELATIONS

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

1. SUMMARY. PODGORNY'S JUNE 13 ELECTION SPEECH,
THOUGH SOLIDLY PRO-DETENTE, HAS A MORE STRIDENT TONE
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ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS THAN KOSYGIN'S SPEECH OF THE DAY

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BEFORE. PODGORNY IS ALSO LESS WARM ON U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. PODGORNY (FULL TEXT OF SPEECH IS IN MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA JUNE 14) GIVES FULL DUE TO IMPORTANCE OF DETENTE, HAILING "OVERALL POSITIVE SHIFTS" IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, EMPHSIZING THAT DETENTE IS GATHERING STRENGTH, AND CITING NEED TO MAKE IT IRREVERSIBLE. AHEAD OF THIS PASSAGE, HOWEVER, HE ALSO DEVOTES LONG PASSAGES TO THE ACTIVITIES OF "HOSTILE FORCES," "IMPERIALIST REACTION," AND THE "MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX." AND HE PLEADS FOR "PERMANENT VIGILANCE" AND MEASURES FOR STRENGTHENING SOVIET DEFENSE CAPABILITY --SUBJECTS WHICH KOSYGIN DID NOT TOUCH.

3. PODGORNY IS PARTICULARLY CRITICAL OF "CERTAIN WESTERN FIGURES" WHO SEEK, IN EXCHANGE FOR DETENTE, TO BARGAIN FOR THEMSELVES "UNILATERAL MILITARY ADVANTAGES" (A REFERENCE TO MBFR AND PERHAPS TO CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES IN CSCE) AND "CHANGES IN THE INTERNAL STRUCTURES" OF THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER SOCIALIST STATES. HE WARNS THAT THE SOVIET UNION DOES NOT ACCEPT NEGOTIATIONS BASED ON A POSITION OF STRENGTH, DICTATION, OR INTER-FERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

4. ON THE U.S., PODGORNY HAS LESS TO SAY THAN KOSYGIN AND MUCH LESS THAN KIRILENKO. HE SPEAKS APPROVINGLY OF THE COMING SUMMIT, AND LIKE KOSYGIN SAYS "WE HOPE" IT WILL HAVE BENEFICIAL RESULTS. HE ALSO WELCOMES PONOMAREV'S VISIT AS A "NEW STEP" IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS (A NATURAL PLUG FOR PARLIAMENTARY EXCHANGES BY A "PARLIAMENTARY" LEADER). UNLIKE A NUMBER OF PREVIOUS SPEAKERS, HOWEVER, HE DOES NOT LIST THE IMPROVEMENT OF U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS AMOUNG THE POSITIVE CHANGES OF RECENT YEARS (HE DOES LIST "FIRST STEPS" IN STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION). IN A HISTORICAL CONTEXT PODGORNY MAKES A NEGATIVE REFERENCE TO THE U.S. --HE SPEAKS OF"AMERICAN AGGRESSION IN VIETNAM." STOESSEL

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